

1 THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR

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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
7 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
8 AT SEATTLE

9 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
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11 Plaintiff,  
12 v.  
13 JERMAINE HICKLES,  
14 Defendant.

CASE NO. CR18-0015-JCC  
ORDER

15 This matter comes before the Court on the United States' and Third-Party Claimant  
16 Jeffrey Krausse's stipulated motion to settle Mr. Krausse's third-party claim to a firearm  
17 forfeited by Defendant in this case (Dkt. No. 52). Mr. Krausse has asserted an interest in the  
18 Ruger P90 .45 caliber handgun, serial number 663-65572 ("Ruger P90"), and the Ruger LCR  
19 .357 caliber revolver, serial number 546-46344 ("Ruger LCR") used in Defendant's underlying  
20 criminal conduct. (Dkt. No. 46.) Having thoroughly considered the parties' stipulation and the  
21 relevant record, the Court hereby GRANTS the motion.

22 The United States and Mr. Krausse hereby stipulate to the following facts:

23 1. In support of his claim, Mr. Krausse asserts he purchased the Ruger P90 in Fort  
24 Lewis, Washington. He submitted a photograph of the original box for that firearm reflecting its  
25 serial number. Mr. Krausse states that both the Ruger P90 and the Ruger LCR were stolen from  
26 his vehicle at a SeaTac hotel on or about June 16, 2017. He has submitted a copy of the incident

1 report he filed with the King County Sheriff after the theft. The incident report identifies the  
2 Ruger P90 and its serial number, but indicates Mr. Krausse bought the Ruger LCR at a gun show  
3 and did not have the serial number for it. Mr. Krausse reports he does not have the receipt for the  
4 Ruger LCR, nor was he able to submit a Washington State Department of Licensing pistol  
5 transfer application or other registration for that firearm. Records maintained by the Bureau of  
6 Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (“ATF”) confirm Mr. Krausse is the last individual  
7 to have purchased the Ruger P90 from a Federal Firearms Licensee (“FFL”) – specifically, from  
8 Northwest Adventure Center in Fort Lewis, Washington on November 29, 2004. ATF records for  
9 the Ruger LCR reflect Mr. Krausse was not its last identified purchaser from an FFL. ATF has  
10 confirmed Mr. Krausse has no identifiable criminal history that would preclude him from  
11 possessing a firearm at this time.

12         2.         Mr. Krausse affirms that the information contained in paragraph 1 is true and  
13 correct. He also affirms that no one living in his residence is prohibited from possessing a  
14 firearm.

15         3.         Based on the information contained in paragraph 1 and Mr. Krausse’s affirmation  
16 in paragraph 2, the United States agrees that Mr. Krausse had a vested interest in the Ruger P90,  
17 pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n)(6)(A), before the Defendant in this case possessed it. As Mr.  
18 Krausse is unable to submit evidence reflecting his ownership of the Ruger LCR, however, the  
19 United States is not able to confirm he has any interest in that second firearm.

20         4.         The United States recognizes Mr. Krausse’s vested interest in the Ruger P90 and  
21 agrees it will return that firearm to Mr. Krausse following completion of the criminal  
22 proceedings in this case, including any criminal appeal. The seizing agency, ATF, will effect the  
23 return of the Ruger P90 to Mr. Krausse. Mr. Krausse understands and acknowledges that the  
24 United States cannot, in the absence of any evidence reflecting he has an ownership interest in it,  
25 return the Ruger LCR to him. Mr. Krausse understands and acknowledges that the United States  
26 will be finally forfeiting the Ruger LCR in this case.

1           5.       Mr. Krausse understands and acknowledges that the Ruger P90 constitutes  
2 evidence in this case and cannot be returned prior to the completion of these criminal  
3 proceedings, including any criminal appeal.

4           6.       Mr. Krausse understands and agrees that the Ruger P90 will be returned to him in  
5 its current condition, as it was seized from Defendant.

6           7.       Mr. Krausse understands and agrees that this stipulation fully and finally resolves  
7 his claim to the Ruger P90 and Ruger LCR. Mr. Krausse waives any right to further litigate or  
8 pursue his claim, in this or any other proceeding, judicial or administrative.

9           8.       Upon return of the Ruger P90, Mr. Krausse agrees to release and hold harmless  
10 the United States, its agents, representatives, and/or employees, as well as any involved state or  
11 local law enforcement agencies, their agents, representatives, and/or employees, from any and all  
12 claims Mr. Krausse may possess, or that could arise, based on the seizure, detention, and return  
13 of the Ruger P90.

14          9.       The United States and Mr. Krausse agree they will each bear their own costs and  
15 attorney fees associated with the seizure, detention, and return of the Ruger P90, as well as Mr.  
16 Krausse's claim and this stipulation. Mr. Krausse expressly waives any right to seek attorney  
17 fees pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2465.

18          10.      Mr. Krausse understands that, after this stipulation is filed, the United States will  
19 be moving to finally forfeit the Ruger LCR, as well as other firearms Defendant agreed to forfeit,  
20 to which neither Mr. Krausse nor anyone else has filed a claim.

21          11.      The United States and Mr. Krausse agree that the terms of this stipulation are  
22 subject to review and approval by the Court, as provided in the proposed order. A violation of  
23 any term or condition of this stipulation shall be construed as a violation of the Court's order.

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1 Respectfully submitted,  
2 BRIAN T. MORAN  
3 United States Attorney

4 DATED: 1/30/19

/s Michelle Jensen  
MICHELLE JENSEN  
Assistant United States Attorney  
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11 DATED: 1/30/19

/s Jeffrey L. Krausse  
JEFFREY L. KRAUSSE  
Third-Party Claimant  
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(509) 398-2182  
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1 The Court has reviewed the above stipulation between the United States and Third-Party  
2 Claimant Jeffrey Krausse, which settles the interest Mr. Krausse has asserted in the Ruger P90  
3 .45 caliber handgun, serial number 663-65572, and the Ruger LCR .357 caliber revolver, serial  
4 number 546-46344 (Dkt. No. 46), which have already been forfeited by Defendant (Dkt. No. 34).  
5 The Court hereby GRANTS the stipulated motion (Dkt. No. 52) and approves the stipulation.

6 DATED this 1st day of February 2019.

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10 John C. Coughenour  
11 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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